

PATENT B 450100-02990 JAN

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Hitoshi KIMURA et al.

Notice of Allowance

Dated: 09/30/2004

Serial No.

09/777,416

Confirmation No. 6963

For

INFORMATION STORAGE METHOD, INFORMATION

STORAGE DEVICE AND RECORDING MEDIUM

Filed

February 6, 2001

Examiner

S. Azarian

Art Unit

2625

745 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 12, 2004

Bruno Polito, Reg. No. 38,580

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

October 12, 2004

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed September 30, 2004. To the extent the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are

allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP Attorneys for Applicants

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